

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: HIRAKO, Norio

Filed: January 28, 2004

For: A STORAGE DEVICE CONTROL APPARATUS AND A METHOD OF  
CONTROLLING THE SAME

**CLAIM FOR PRIORITY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 28, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 AND 37 CFR § 1.55, Applicants hereby  
claim the right of priority based on Patent Application No. 2003-402996 filed in Japan  
on December 2, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

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